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NOTE

Subject: MONTHLY SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTS - JULY 2020

This document lists the acts¹ adopted by the Council in July 2020.²³

It provides information on the adoption of legislative and non-legislative acts, including:

- the date of adoption,
- the relevant Council session,
- the number of the document adopted,
- the Official Journal reference,
- reference to the minutes of the Council session when the act was adopted.

¹ For easy reference, the "short titles" as mentioned in the Council's agendas are also indicated (see in italics).

² With the exception of certain acts of limited scope such as procedural decisions, appointments, specific budgetary decisions, etc unless adopted by written procedure.

³ In the case of legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure, there may be a difference between the date of the Council's meeting where the legislative act is adopted and the actual date of the act in question, since legislative acts adopted in the ordinary legislative procedure are only considered to have been adopted after signature by both the President of the Council and the President of the European Parliament and the Secretaries-General of the two institutions.

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If not directly available, a request for access to documents can be submitted at:

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/documents-publications/public-register/request-document/>

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INFORMATION ON THE ACTS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL IN JULY 2020	
Written procedure completed on 1 July 2020	CM 2756/20
Public access to documents - Confirmatory application No 15/c/01/20	8752/20
Written procedure completed on 1 July 2020	CM 2881/20
Council conclusions on European Court of Auditors' Special Report 11/2020 entitled "Energy efficiency in buildings: greater focus on cost-effectiveness still needed	9163/20
Written procedure completed on 1 July 2020	CM 2887/20
Council conclusions on ECA Report 5/2020 on the sustainable use of plant protection products: limited progress in measuring and reducing risks	8497/20

Written procedure completed on 1 July 2020	CM 2892 /20
European Semester: integrated country-specific recommendations - Approval and report to the European Council	8593/1/20 REV1
Statement by Poland	
<p>Poland reiterates its statement submitted to the General Secretariat of the Council with regard to the written procedure CM 2409/20, which is as follows:</p> <p>Poland would like to abstain from voting regarding the approval of the contribution on economic/financial and MIP-related aspects of the draft Council Recommendations on the National Reform Programmes 2020 to each Member State, delivering Council Opinions on the updated Stability or Convergence Programmes.</p> <p>Poland does not support part of country specific recommendation 4 (CSR) where Commission advises to "<i>Enhance the investment climate, in particular by safeguarding judicial independence</i>".</p> <p>In our opinion there is no evidence of any negative impact of changes in the judicial system on the investment climate in Poland. Since 2017, when the Commission for the first time decided to align the legal certainty, trust in the quality and predictability of regulatory with the investment climate, Poland has been recording a steady increase in both public and private investment (about 22 per cent for last 3 years).</p> <p>Poland has introduced many favourable changes important for investment and business environment. The improvement in investment performance was also confirmed by the Commission in 2020 Country report-Poland but even though the Commission decided to strengthen this issue in the CSR4.</p> <p>Moreover, as stated in the recital 25, some of the CJEU proceedings are pending along with a debate over the scope of authority of the CJEU over the matters pertaining to the Member States' scope of competence, i.e. the organization of the judiciary. So far, Poland complies with the CJEU's guidelines, therefore we don't see a reason to underline the necessity to additionally safeguard the judicial independence.</p> <p>We would like to stress the importance of the European Semester as a framework for enhanced economic policy coordination in Europe. This economic process should be based on facts and figures. Otherwise we can have political statements and recommendations without any economic underpinning and instead of strengthening this important coordination tool we would weaken its effectiveness. We also stressed that European Semester should not duplicate other EU procedures.</p>	

Written procedure completed on 1 July 2020	CM 2744/20
Public access to documents - Confirmatory application No 08/c/01/20	8689/20
Statements by Ireland, Finland, Latvia, Italy, The Netherlands, Estonia, Sweden, Denmark, Lithuania	
<p>Statement by Ireland Ireland does not agree with the draft reply to Confirmatory application 08/c/01/20 "WKs from Working Party on Company Law". Ireland recalls that the principle of transparency is particularly pressing in relation to decision-making processes of a legislative nature and believes the release of the specific documents referred to in this confirmatory application would not tend to undermine the decision-making process.</p> <p>Statement by Finland Finland cannot concur with the interpretation of Regulation 1049/2001 referred to in the draft reply, especially in light of the Turco case (C-39/05 and C-52/05) and the De Capitani case (T-540/15) and taking into consideration the importance of openness in legislative procedures emphasized by the Lisbon Treaty.</p> <p>Statement by Latvia Latvia considers that taking into account the specific circumstances and context of the present case, access could be granted to the four requested documents. This is in accordance with its initially stated position. Each situation will be assessed on its own merits.</p> <p>Statement by Italy We would confirm our consistency with the initial position proposed by the Council. Indeed, transparency should be granted through the availability of EU documents and discussions, especially for those negotiations that are not conclusive and no conclusion is foreseen in the short – mid term.</p> <p>Statement by The Netherlands The Netherlands cannot concur with the draft reply to confirmatory application 08/c/01/20. The Netherlands emphasizes the importance of access to documents and transparency to improve EU's legitimacy. This is particularly important with regard to transparency for documents that relate to the legislative procedures. The Netherlands is of the opinion that the reply does not strike the right balance between the principle of public access to legislative documents and the protection of the decision-making process of the Council.</p>	

<p>Statement by Estonia Estonia is of the opinion that the release of the documents would not undermine the decision-making process as the arguments in the draft reply are not justified and thus do not outweigh the principle of transparency. We believe that publication of all relevant documents would be advantageous for proper conclusion of the negotiations of this contentious legislative act.</p> <p>Statement by Sweden Sweden cannot concur with the draft reply. Taking into account the specific circumstances in this case/matter and the settled case-law of the Court (i.e. De Capitani, point 78 and 99), Sweden considers that it is not sufficiently motivated how disclosure of these documents specifically and actually would undermine the ongoing decision-making process and why the risk of these interests being undermined is reasonable and foreseeable and not purely hypothetical.</p> <p>Statement by Denmark Denmark cannot concur with the draft reply to confirmatory application 08/c/01/20. Denmark emphasizes the importance of access to documents and transparency to improve EU's legitimacy. This is particularly important with regards to transparency for documents that relate to the legislative procedures. Denmark is of the opinion that the reply does not strike the right balance between the principle of public access to legislative documents and the protection of the decision-making process of the Council.</p> <p>Statement by Lithuania Lithuania cannot agree with the draft reply to Confirmatory application 08/c/01/20 "WKs from Working Party on Company Law", set out in doc. 8689/20. Lithuania considers that the interpretation of Regulation 1049/2001 and relevant ECJ case-law allows in this specific case to grant access to the requested documents.</p>	
<p>Written procedure completed on 3 July 2020</p>	<p>CM 2909/20</p>
<p><i>Council Decision appointing members of the Scientific and Technical Committee</i> Council Decision of 3 July 2020 appointing members of the Scientific and Technical Committee 2020/C 223 I/01 OJ C 223I, 7.7.2020, p. 1–2</p>	<p>8754/20</p>

Written procedure completed on 3 July 2020	CM 2922/20
<p><i>Council Decision further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430, and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556 and (EU) 2020/702, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union</i></p> <p>Council Decision (EU) 2020/970 of 3 July 2020 further extending the temporary derogation from the Council's Rules of Procedure introduced by Decision (EU) 2020/430, and extended by Decisions (EU) 2020/556 and (EU) 2020/702, in view of the travel difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Union</p> <p>OJ L 216, 7.7.2020, p. 1–2</p>	9083/20
Written procedure completed on 6 July 2020	CM 2894/20
<p><i>Council Decision on the financial contributions to be paid by Member States to finance the European Development Fund, including the second instalment for 2020</i></p> <p>Council Decision (EU) 2020/976 of 6 July 2020 on the financial contributions to be paid by Member States to finance the European Development Fund, including the second instalment for 2020</p> <p>OJ L 215, 7.7.2020, p. 17–20</p>	8958/20
Written procedure completed on 7 July 2020	CM 2934/20
<p><i>Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (2019-2024)</i></p> <p>Council Decision (EU) 2020/984 of 7 July 2020 on the conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (2019-2024)</p> <p>OJ L 222, 10.7.2020, p. 4–6</p>	8928/19

Written procedure completed on 7 July 2020	CM 2935/20
<p><i>Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol on implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cape Verde (2019-2024)</i></p> <p>Council Decision (EU) 2020/983 of 7 July 2020 on the conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cape Verde (2019-2024)</p> <p>OJ L 222, 10.7.2020, p. 1–3</p>	8662/1/19 REV1
Written procedure completed on 7 July 2020	CM 2936/20
<p>Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the conclusion of a protocol to the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the Government of Cook Islands</p>	8848/20 + ADD1
Written procedure completed on 7 July 2020	CM 2937/20
<p><i>Council Decision on the conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the European Community</i></p> <p>Council Decision (EU) 2020/985 of 7 July 2020 on the conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the European Community</p> <p>OJ L 222, 10.7.2020, p. 7–9</p>	12199/19
Written procedure completed on 7 July 2020	CM 2940/20
<p><i>Council Decision in support of the development of an internationally recognised system for the validation of arms and ammunition management according to open international standards</i></p> <p>Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/979 of 7 July 2020 in support of the development of an internationally recognised system for the validation of arms and ammunition management according to open international standards</p> <p>OJ L 218, 8.7.2020, p. 1–9</p>	8762/20

Written procedure completed on 9 July 2020	CM 3017/20
<i>Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1696 on the operating rules of the selection panel provided for in Article 14(3) of Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939</i> Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1008 of 9 July 2020 amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1696 on the operating rules of the selection panel provided for in Article 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 OJ L 221I, 10.7.2020, p. 1–2	9229/20
Written procedure completed on 10 July 2020	CM 3051/20
Council Decision replacing an alternate member of the Management Board of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), for Sweden	9153/20
3765th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Foreign Affairs) held in Brussels on 13 July 2020 (Minutes: 9649/20)	
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT
<i>Council Decision on the conclusion of the GATT Article XXVIII Agreement with Switzerland on seasoned meat</i> Council Decision (EU) 2020/1067 of 13 July 2020 on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation in the context of negotiations under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 on the modification of Switzerland's WTO concessions with regard to seasoned meat OJ L 233, 21.7.2020, p. 1–2	12482/19 + COR 1
<i>Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation in the context of negotiations under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 on the modification of Switzerland's WTO concessions with regard to seasoned meat</i> Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation in the context of negotiations under Article XXVIII of the GATT 1994 on the modification of Switzerland's WTO concessions with regard to seasoned meat OJ L 233, 21.7.2020, p. 3–6 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, HR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV) OJ L 233, 21.7.2020, p. 3–3 (GA)	12483/19 + COR 1

<p><i>Council Decision amending Decision (CFSP) 2020/251 of 25 February 2020 extending the mandate of the European Union Special Representative for the Horn of Africa</i></p> <p>Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/1014 of 13 July 2020 amending Decision (CFSP) 2018/905 extending the mandate of the European Union Special Representative for the Horn of Africa</p> <p>OJ L 2251, 14.7.2020, p. 1–2</p>	8564/20
<p><i>Conclusions on EU priorities at the UN and UNGA75</i></p> <p>Council conclusions on EU priorities at the United Nations and the 75th United Nations General Assembly, September 2020 - September 2021</p>	9314/20
<p><i>Conclusions on EU priorities for cooperation with the Council of Europe 2020-2022</i></p> <p>Council Conclusions on EU priorities for cooperation with the Council of Europe 2020-2022</p>	9177/20
Written procedure completed on 14 July 2020	CM 3045/20
<p><i>Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 as regards the resources for the specific allocation for the youth employment initiative</i></p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2020/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (Text with EEA relevance)</p> <p>OJ L 198, 22.6.2020, p. 13–43</p>	PE 22/20
Written procedure completed on 14 July 2020	CM 3046/20
<p><i>Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down temporary measures concerning the time limits for the collection, the verification and the examination stages provided for in Regulation (EU) 2019/788 on the European citizens' initiative in view of the COVID-19 outbreak</i></p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2020/1042 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2020 laying down temporary measures concerning the time limits for the collection, the verification and the examination stages provided for in Regulation (EU) 2019/788 on the European citizens' initiative in view of the COVID-19 outbreak</p> <p>OJ L 231, 17.7.2020, p. 7–11</p>	PE 23/1/20 REV 1

Statement by Romania	
<p>Romania understands the intention of the European Commission to preserve the efficacy of the European citizens' initiative instrument during this pandemic and to provide reassurance and legal clarity to the organizers of initiatives with the collection, verification or examination still ongoing.</p> <p>Romania considers that in this difficult situation there is a need to have a clear and sound policy applying to the European Citizens' Initiative, in order to preserve their important character of participative democracy and ensuring that the voice of European citizens can be heard.</p> <p>Romania will not oppose, in the spirit of compromise, the proposal of the European Commission, but considers that some of the provisions do not provide legal certainty and equal treatment for the ECI. Romania considers that the most problematic is the application of the provisions that extend the collection period, which is unclear and could lead to discrimination between ECIs, especially in the case of those which finalized their collection period between 11 March and 11 September. Since the legal text provides the same extension for the collection of signatures without adapting it on a case by case basis, depending on the time elapsed in each case, such an approach will result in an unequal treatment between these ECI.</p> <p>Romania's position is that, even in exceptional circumstances, a legal act needs to be legally sound and ensure fair and equal treatment to all that are impacted by it.</p>	
Written procedure completed on 14 July 2020	CM 3070/20
<p><i>Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 as regards its transitional provisions in order to address the impact of the COVID-19 crisis</i></p> <p>Regulation (EU) 2020/1040 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2020 amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1628 as regards its transitional provisions in order to address the impact of the COVID-19 crisis (Text with EEA relevance)</p> <p>OJ L 231, 17.7.2020, p. 1–3</p>	PE 21/1/20 REV 1

Written procedure completed on 14 July 2020	CM 3072/20
<i>Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conduct of clinical trials with and supply of medicinal products for human use containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms intended to treat or prevent coronavirus disease (COVID-19)</i> Regulation (EU) 2020/1043 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2020 on the conduct of clinical trials with and supply of medicinal products for human use containing or consisting of genetically modified organisms intended to treat or prevent coronavirus disease (COVID-19) OJ L 231, 17.7.2020, p. 12–16	PE 28/1/20 REV1

Statement by the Netherlands	
<p>The Netherlands feels a strong sense of urgency to speed up the development of a vaccine or treatment against COVID-19. Facilitating this process as much as possible is a key priority for the Netherlands. This is exactly why Germany, France, Italy and the Netherlands established the Inclusive Vaccine Alliance and welcomed the EU Vaccine Strategy. The Netherlands appreciates the Commission proposal¹ for accelerating existing procedures for clinical trials with GMOs to facilitate quicker development of a vaccine or a cure for COVID-19.</p> <p>However, the Netherlands' Commission on Genetic Modification² points out serious concerns with the proposal as it allows a derogation of the requirements for an environmental risk assessment (ERA) for clinical trials with GMOs, including clinical trials with unknown GMOs and unknown risks. In addition, the lack of an ERA brings forth questions on liability and responsibility, if an incident with negative effects would occur.</p> <p>Although the Netherlands supports faster, more harmonised procedures in the EU regarding clinical trials involving GMOs, the Netherlands shares the concerns of its Commission on Genetic Modification with regard to ensuring safety for human health and the environment. An approach that simplifies and shortens the procedures for an ERA would be preferred above a generic derogation. However, amending this proposal in such a manner would significantly delay its adoption. In light of the current, unprecedented pandemic and the urgent need for a vaccine or medicine, such a delay can currently not be afforded.</p> <p>The Netherlands urges sponsors of clinical trials, Member States and the European Commission to take full responsibility to seriously consider and prevent all possible negative impacts of GMOs for human health or the environment, when performing clinical trials with GMOs or administering medicinal products before a market authorisation is granted.</p> <p>If unforeseen negative impacts occur, the Netherlands urges all those involved to take all appropriate measures to prevent further escalation and immediately notify national authorities and the European Commission, so that coordinated efforts can be made to minimize newly identified risks.</p>	
Written procedure completed on 16 July 2020	CM 3084/20
<p><i>Council Recommendation amending Council Recommendation (EU) 2020/912 on the temporary restriction on non-essential travel into the EU and the possible lifting of such restriction</i></p> <p>Council Recommendation (EU) 2020/1052 of 16 July 2020 amending Council Recommendation (EU) 2020/912 on the temporary restriction on non-essential travel into the EU and the possible lifting of such restriction</p> <p>OJ L 230, 17.7.2020, p. 26–28</p>	9596/20

Written procedure completed on 16 July 2020	CM 3123/20
Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Hungary on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of management of the external borders	9096/20
Written procedure completed on 16 July 2020	CM 3124/20
Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Hungary on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the common visa policy	9098/20
Written procedure completed on 16 July 2020	CM 3125/20
Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of the Republic of Poland on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of police cooperation	9087/20
Written procedure completed on 16 July 2020	CM 3126/20
Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Poland on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of return	9090/20
Written procedure completed on 16 July 2020	CM 3128/20
Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Slovenia on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of return	9092/20
Written procedure completed on 16 July 2020	CM 3129/20
Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Slovenia on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of Schengen Information System	9094/20
Written procedure completed on 16 July 2020	CM 3130/20
Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2019 evaluation of Slovenia on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the management of the external borders	9100/20
Written procedure completed on 17 July 2020	CM 3121/20
Transfer of appropriations No DEC 1/2020 within Section VII - Committee of the Regions - of the general budget for 2020	9536/20

Written procedure completed on 17 July 2020	CM 2907/20
Public access to documents - Confirmatory application No 16/c/02/20	8809/20
Statement by The Netherlands The Netherlands agrees with the reasoning in the draft reply that disclosure of the requested document would undermine the protection of the public interest as regards the international relations, considering in particular the still ongoing international negotiations. However, on a more general note, the Netherlands is of the opinion that it is not sufficiently motivated why there is a reasonably foreseeable and not purely hypothetical risk that disclosure of the requested document would also undermine future international negotiations	
3766th meeting of the Council of the European Union (Agriculture and Fisheries) held in Brussels on 20 July 2020 (Minutes: 9824/20)	
LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT
<i>Directive on Crowdfunding Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons</i> Position of the Council at first reading with a view to the adoption of a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2014/65/EU on markets in financial instruments	6799/1/20 REV1 + REV1 ADD1
<i>Regulation on Crowdfunding Adoption of the Council's position at first reading and of the statement of the Council's reasons</i> Position of the Council at first reading with a view to the adoption of a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European crowdfunding service providers for business, and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 and Directive (EU) 2019/1937	6800/1/20 REV1 + REV1 ADD1
NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTS	
ACT	DOCUMENT
<i>Amended proposal for a Council Decision on the conclusion of the Air Transport Agreement between the EU and USA (Irish language version)</i> Council Decision on the conclusion on behalf of the European Union of the Air Transport Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United States of America, of the other part	13419/16

<p><i>Country Specific Recommendations 2020</i></p> <p>Council Recommendations on the National Reform Programmes 2020 to each Member State, delivering Council Opinions on the updated Stability or Convergence Programmes</p>	8449/5/20 REV5
<p><i>European Semester 2020 – Recommendation on the economic policy of the euro area</i></p> <p>Council Recommendation of 20 July 2020 on the economic policy of the euro area 2020/C 243/01</p> <p>OJ C 243, 23.7.2020, p. 1–7</p>	6301/20
<p><i>EU-China agreement on geographical indications - Council Decision on the signing</i></p> <p>Council Decision on the signing, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the People's Republic of China on cooperation on, and protection of, geographical indications</p>	8356/20
<p><i>EU-China agreement on geographical indications - Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the People's Republic of China on cooperation on, and protection of, geographical indications</i></p> <p>Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the People's Republic of China on cooperation on, and protection of, geographical indications</p>	8361/20
<p><i>Council Decision in support of the Hague Code of Conduct and ballistic missile non-proliferation in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction</i></p> <p>Council Decision (CFSP) 2020/1066 of 20 July 2020 amending Decision (CFSP) 2017/2370 in support of the Hague Code of Conduct and ballistic missile non-proliferation in the framework of the implementation of the EU Strategy against Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction</p> <p>OJ L 234I, 21.7.2020, p. 1–2</p>	9172/20
<p><i>Guinea Bissau restrictive measures - review</i></p> <p>Guinea-Bissau restrictive measures - review</p>	9481/20
<p><i>Council Decision on the EU position in the Ghana-EU EPA Committee regarding the adoption of the Rules of Procedures of the EPA Committee</i></p> <p>Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the EPA Committee established under the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Ghana, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, as regards the adoption of the Rules of Procedures of the EPA Committee</p>	9207/20

<i>Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the EPA Committee established under the stepping stone Economic Partnership Agreement between Ghana, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, as regards the adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the EPA Committee</i>	9240/20
Written procedure completed on 20 July 2020	CM 3136/20
Council Decision amending Directives (EU) 2017/2455 and (EU) 2019/1995 as regards the dates of transposition and application in response to the COVID-19 pandemic	9123/20
Council Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2017/2454 as regards the dates of application in response to the COVID-19 pandemic	9124/20
Written procedure completed on 20 July 2020	CM 3137/20
Council Implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2026 as regards the dates of application in response to the COVID-19 pandemic	9125/20
Written procedure completed on 22 July 2020	CM 3079/20
Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/485 authorising Denmark to apply a special measure derogating from Article 75 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax	9214/20
Written procedure completed on 24 July 2020	CM 3080/20
Council Implementing Decision amending Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/784 authorising the Italian Republic to apply a special measure derogating from Articles 206 and 226 of Directive 2006/112/EC on the common system of value added tax	9209/2020 REV1
Written procedure completed on 24 July 2020	CM 3087/20
Council Conclusions on "Compliance with the necessary hygiene and infection control measures to ensure cross border collective passenger transport	9694/20
Written procedure completed on 24 July 2020	CM 3143/20
Council Decision appointing a member of the Court of Auditors	9381/20

Written procedure completed on 24 July 2020	CM 3176/20
Transfer of appropriations No DEC 13/2020 within Section III - Commission - of the general budget for 2020	9377/20
Written procedure completed on 24 July 2020	CM 3143/20
Council Decision on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union within the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, of the other part, as regards the adoption of amendments to Protocols 1 and 4 to the Agreement	9323/20
Decision of the EC/Faroe Islands Joint Committee amending Protocols 1 and 4 to the Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Government of the Faroe Islands, of the other part	9385/20
Written procedure completed on 28 July 2020	CM 3203/20
Council Implementing Decision appointing the European Prosecutors of the European Public Prosecutor's Office	ST 14830/19 + REV1
Written procedure completed on 28 July 2020	CM 3185/20
Council Conclusions on Hong Kong	ST 9872/1/20 REV1.+ REV1 COR1
Written procedure completed on 28 July 2020	CM 3109/20
Council Decision on Union outreach activities in support of the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty	9485/20
Council Decision on appointing the European Union Special Representative in Kosovo	9487/20
Written procedure completed on 29 July 2020	CM 3202/20
Council Directive amending Directive 92/83/EEC on the harmonization of the structures of excise duties on alcohol and alcoholic beverages	9139/20

Statements by the Commission	
<p>Statement by the Commission concerning the alternative structure of excise duty for wine, other fermented beverages and intermediate products:</p> <p>“Alcohol related harm is a major public health concern in the EU and while Member States are mainly responsible for their national alcohol policy, the Commission notes that the current wording of Directive 92/83/CEE does not offer the possibility for Member States to levy excise duties on specific alcoholic beverages in accordance with their alcoholic strength. In light of these growing concerns of some Member States, the Commission will analyse the impacts of this alternative method as part of the first review of the Directive.”</p> <p>Statement by the Commission concerning the extension of reduced rates for producers of wine (Article 9a):</p> <p>“The Commission recalls that the specific objectives of the Directive include ensuring fair treatment for all businesses, including small producers of all alcohol types and preventing and correcting any distortions of competition in the application of the reduced rates for these small producers.</p> <p>The Commission must remind the Council that when setting the threshold for defining small producers of any type of alcohol, this level should capture producers that, although numerous, represent only a small share of the market, to prevent market and trade distortions.</p> <p>The Commission disagrees with the introduction of an increased threshold of 20 000 hectolitres of wine per annum for Malta due to the possible market and trade distortions risks and the difficulty to justify such a figure when the average annual EU wine production per holding is 70 hectolitres.”</p>	
Written procedure completed on 30 July 2020	CM 3189/20
Council Decision appointing members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions	9600/20
Written procedure completed on 30 July 2020	CM 3199/20
Council Decision appointing two members, proposed by the Hellenic Republic, of the Committee of the Regions	9718/20 + COR 1
Written procedure completed on 30 July 2020	CM 3226/20
Council Recommendation amending the Council Recommendation (EU) 2020/912 of 30 June 2020 on the temporary restriction on non-essential travel into the EU and the possible lifting of such restriction	9978/20

Written procedure completed on 31 July 2020	CM 3230/20
Council Conclusions European Court of Auditors' Special Report No 12/2020:"The European Investment Advisory Hub: Launched to boost investment in the EU, the Hub's impact remains limited"	9867/20